

MINUTES FROM MH WORKGROUP MEETING
September 10, 2003

Recorded by Leslie Weisman, LCSW
Aftercare Coordinator, Arlington CSB

Welcome and introductions were made.

PRESENTATION BY LIBERTY HEALTHCARE CORPORATION ON “ARKANSAS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM” – Tony Cimino and Jim Bell

This was an excellent, informative presentation on an innovative program, which provides psychiatric rehabilitation for NGRI patients in a secure residential treatment setting. A video and presentation were provided along with written materials. A question and answer period followed. Mr. Bell offered to return to provide a presentation for the Steering Committee, if requested.

Updates since last MH Workgroup Meeting –

Steering Committee - met on 7/31/03. Workgroups gave updates. Some discussion of need for more consumer members on the MHWG. Initial report by Joan Durman was reviewed and approved. Work Plan for coming year was discussed, including membership on the Steering Committee (greater diversity needed). Jim Thur discussed need to refine and gather more data this year, synthesize the data and look at community options, bring any proposals to the larger community.

DAD Coordinating Committee - met on 8/14/03. Review of issues/trends in admissions at NVMHI and WSH. WSH recognized by DOJ as a model for psychosocial rehabilitation. Some discussion of regional crisis care capacity between Arlington and Fairfax programs. Draft operating procedures will be developed.

Updates from Lynn DeLacy – Lynn provided update of the Workplan for Phase 2. Included discussion of agenda being developed for Private Psychiatric Hospital Group. Statewide meeting on 9/22/03 on special population groups who have begun meeting over the summer.

Updates on Psychiatric bed closings – Deborah Snyder reviewed issues as Emergency Managers representative. Discussion focused on possible closings at Alexandria Hospital, Northern Virginia Community Hospital, and Dominion Hospital. Possible change of location for Mt. Vernon Hospital discussed. Virginia Hospital Center will increase bed capacity over the next year. The Private Psychiatric Hospital Group will continue the discussion around these critical issues.

Overview for Phase 2 of the MH Workgroup –

Group Membership – quick review of discussion from July meeting. Decision made to keep existing vendors on the MH Workgroup list. Send minutes to broader range of agencies to include shelter contractors, when applicable and other residential providers.

Issues to be studied/discussed – Recovery subgroup and Forensic subgroup formed to begin planning and discussion for the coming year. They will report out at our next meeting.

Review Meeting Schedule – reminder of need for consistent meetings this year with regular attendance from group members. Meetings will be held the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm at NVMHI.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 8, 2003 at NVMHI.